

# ST. THOMAS Agricultural Society.

Pursuant to Public Notice, a Meeting was held at the Talbot Mansion House, St. Thomas, Wednesday, October 23rd, 1880, for the purpose of establishing an Agricultural Society, to be called "The Saint Thomas Branch of the London District Agricultural Society," of which the Honorable Colonel Talbot is Patron, and to appoint Officers for the present year—when Mr. Samuel Eccles was called to the Chair, and Mr. Thomas Hutchinson was appointed to act as Secretary.

*It was Resolved,*  
That this Society shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer, a Committee of Management, a Secretary, Corresponding Secretaries, and Members, to be annually elected at the general Meeting; the following persons were appointed:—

**PRESIDENT**—MR. SAMUEL ECCLES.

**TREASURER**—MR. ANDREW SMITH.

**VICE PRESIDENTS.**

Major James McQueen, Richard D. Drake,  
Joshua Bobier, Robert Blackwood,  
Thomas Hutchinson.

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.**

James Clark, Robert Thompson;  
William Taylor, Squire Millard;  
Meredith Ormond, Benjamin L. Lloyd;  
John Bobier, George Miller;  
William Webb, John K. Labatte,  
Garrett Smith.

**SECRETARY**—Richard D. Drake.

**CORRESPONDING** } Edward Myhill,  
**SECRETARIES** } Charles G. A. Toser.

It was proposed, (for the consideration of the Society) that in the event of sufficient funds being obtained by subscription, and the proportion of the Parliamentary grant which this Society might be entitled to, that it would be very desirable and greatly assist the object this Society has in view, if its funds were appropriated to importing Stock, instead of giving Cash premiums to successful candidates; and substitute a premium ticket to be available to the holder or bearer by the use of such imported Stock.

**SAMUEL ECCLES, CHAIRMAN.**  
**THOS HUTCHINSON, SECRETARY.**

At a meeting of the Committee of Management of the St. Thomas Agricultural Society, held at the Mansion House, St. Thomas, on Saturday the 2nd November, *It was Resolved*—That Mr. George Claris, Mr. J. K. Labatte, and Mr. Wm. Webb, be requested to draw up Rules and Regulations for this Society, and also to report to the proposal left for the consideration of the Society at its first Meeting, and to have 200 copies of such Rules and Report printed and circulated. They were also requested to enclose a printed form of the rules and report to the following Gentlemen, earnestly requesting them to solicit and collect subscriptions and forward the amount to the Treasurer at St. Thomas—and that a Public Meeting shall be called on the second Saturday of January, 1881, at the Talbot Mansion House, Saint Thomas, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to decide on the Rules and Report there to be produced, at which Meeting it is required all Members will give their attendance.

Col. Patterson, Danwick  
Mr. Joshua Bobier, do  
" Robert Thompson, do  
" Truman Waters, Southwold,  
" Levi Fowler, do  
" George Ribb, do  
" George Elliott, do  
Major James McQueen, do  
Mr. Robert Blackwood, do  
Captain R. D. Drake, do  
Edward Bunting, Esq. St. Thomas  
Andrew Smith, Esq. do  
Messrs McKay, do  
Messrs. Hope and Hodge, do  
Mr. John Westlake, do  
" John Wells, do  
" Samuel Harris, Southwold,  
" Joseph Silcox, do  
" Henry Payne, do  
" John Allworth, do

" Squire Millard, Southwold.  
Samuel Eccles, Esq. do  
Mr. George Miller, Yarmouth,  
" R. Gilbert, do  
" Matthew Tisdale, do  
" John Caughell, do  
" John Marlat, do  
Major James Neville, do  
Benjamin Wilson, Esq. do  
Mr. James Jay, do  
" O. Mills, do  
" Jesse Page, do  
" James Clark, do  
" James Thompson, do  
" James Haught, do  
" Lewis, do  
" E. Mills, do  
" Thomas Hutchinson, do  
" William Buchanan Sen. do  
" G. T. Claris, Westminster,  
" John K. Labatte, do  
" Charles G. A. Toser, Malshide,  
Philip Hodgkinson, Esq. do

**RICHARD D. DRAKE,**  
Secretary.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SAINT THOMAS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

**FIRST.**—That this Society shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, a Committee of Management, a Secretary, Corresponding Secretaries, and Members, to be elected at the General Meeting, which will be held on the last Tuesday in September, annually.

**SECOND.**—That all Offices belonging to the Society shall be served without fee or reward.

**THIRD.**—That an entrance subscription of ten shillings Provincial Currency, and an annual subscription of five shillings Provincial Currency, shall constitute a Member of the Society; the annual subscription for the ensuing year to be paid to the Treasurer, on or before the day of the General Meeting in September, and that every person who is, or shall become a Member, his subscription shall be considered only due to the Society, until he shall have given twelve months notice (in writing) to the Secretary, of his intention to withdraw it.

**FOURTH.**—None but Members who have paid their subscriptions can be Candidates for Premiums at the annual Show.

**FIFTH.**—That Candidates for Premium shall give their intention of showing, and a description of the Animals they intend to exhibit, to the Secretary in writing, three days before the day of exhibition.

**SIXTH.**—Any Member who under false pretences endeavours to obtain a Premium, shall be for ever excluded this Society.

**SEVENTH.**—That a Committee of Management shall meet on the day before the annual General Meeting in September, for the purpose of arranging the business thereof, and that all new laws, or rules, or alterations of laws or rules, and all new bounties or premiums, or alterations of bounties or premiums, shall be proposed to the Committee at this meeting, and shall be approved of and recommended by it to the Annual General Meeting before they can be adopted. That all accounts of this Society shall be examined and balanced by the Committee at this meeting, and shall be produced fairly written out, signed by the Chairman and two other members of the Committee, to the Annual General Meeting, and that said Committee shall, on that day appoint Judges necessary for deciding Premiums, and Stewards to superintend the arrangement of Stock, &c. exhibited. Five members of the Committee shall constitute a Quorum.

**EIGHTH.**—That the Secretary shall attend all meetings of this Society, and its Committee shall make minutes of all its resolutions and transactions, and enter them fairly in its Journal. That he shall also have the keeping of the Books and Papers, and produce them at any time required by the Committee.

**NINTH.**—That the Treasurer shall pay no monies belonging to the Society, without an order signed by the President and two of the Members.

**TENTH.**—That no person, except those in care of the Cattle, shall be admitted into the Show-field, or other place appointed for the exhibition, during the examination of the Stock by the Judges.

SAINT THOMAS

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

### REPORT.

In accordance with the Resolutions of the Committee of Management, at a meeting held at the Talbot Mansion House on the 2nd November, 1880, we have drawn up the accompanying Rules and Regulations for this Society, which we submit, and recommend for the adoption of the General Meeting on the 2nd Saturday of January 1881.

In reporting on the proposed Plan of appropriating the Funds of the Society to the Importation of Cattle instead of giving Cash Premiums.—We highly approve of it, and earnestly recommend it may be put in execution as soon as the Funds of the Society are ascertained to be sufficient, and to substitute in lieu of Cash, a Premium Ticket that shall be available to the holder or bearer to the amount of its value by the use of the Society's Bulls or other Stock. And in case a fortunate Candidate may obtain a Premium Ticket that is of use to him, we propose they shall be negotiable, by the holder selling his claim on the Society to any other person, (member or no member,) for the same purpose only.

According to the existing Rule of Agricultural Societies in this Province, of giving Cash Premiums, we are strongly of opinion, that little benefit is derived to the Agriculturist. The Funds of Societies are dissipated in giving Premiums for Stock that is little entitled to merit, and we believe (without impositions) that in ten years time our Cattle will be no better than at the present day.

Although there have been a few individuals who have been spirited enough to import Stock with great benefit to themselves and the Public, the benefit has been confined to the immediate neighborhood where such animals were introduced, and it is, we think, too much to expect a private importation of Stock will be a benefit for many years. In recommending at present the importation of Horned Cattle only, we are not blind to the necessity of improving our Sheep and Pigs, but from the lesser risk and expense attending the importation of these animals, many Farmers emigrating to this Province, bring some with them, they are also more prolific, and more easily distributed through the country—consequently the improvement in these breeds of animals is now much more apparent than in Horned Cattle. With these views we confine our recommendations at present to the importation of Horned Cattle of a pure Breed, to be decided on at the next General Meeting of the Members, and we are of opinion, that many Members of this Society have friends in England, who would purchase animals, and ship them for this Society, without any charge but travelling expenses; and we recommend that a correspondence may be entered into by some member or members of this Society, to ascertain the price animals may be purchased for and the expense of transportation to Montreal. Then, if the funds of the Society be found sufficient, we recommend that four Yearling Bulls and two Heifers be purchased and imported.

By importing this number we are of opinion, that (without unforeseen accidents) a future importation of Horned Cattle would not be necessary for many years; as, by changing the station of the four Bulls, they would be equally beneficial to the end of twelve years as the first year, and may then be sold for the benefit of the Society; besides which, having two Heifers, the Society may breed Bulls to succeed the imported ones; and also, some for sale, which would eventually become a source of pecuniary benefit. We further are of opinion, that in two or three years the Society may (by adopting this method) be enabled to import one or two thorough-bred Horses, which would be the means of greatly benefiting the Society and the country. Should these plans be successfully adopted, and a further importation be considered unnecessary, the Society may then give Premiums in cash; but till that time, we feel confident such premiums should be withheld; and when we consider, that the merit of being the breeder or possessor of the best animal, is the same with or without cash, we think the members of this Society will lose sight of the immediate possession of a Premium by the prospect of a very distant possession of a Pound.

If the Society succeed in importing Bulls, we suggest that they should be stationed at such distances as will insure the greatest benefit; and the Prices charged for each Cow shall be to members Three Shillings and Nine Pence, and to non-members, Ten Shillings, Currency.

(Signed,) G. T. CLARIS,  
Wm. WEBB, +  
JOHN K. LABATTE